

NORTH CAROLINA IN THE WAR BETWEEN THE STATES.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE.^{**}

Upon the monument which this State has erected at the west front of the Capitol in Raleigh in perpetual memory of the fidelity to duty of the sons she sent to the front in 1861-'65 is inscribed the legend—

“FIRST AT BETHEL,
LAST AT APPOMATTOX.”

Upon the cover of the five volumes of “North Carolina Regimental Histories 1861-'65” which, compiled by veterans who were actual participants in the events they narrated, have been published and issued by authority of the State, there are stamped the above words, with the insertion between the first and last lines of the following:

“FARTHEST TO THE FRONT AT GETTYSBURG AND AT
CHICKAMAUGA.”

These claims were not made as a matter of boast. They were merely a statement of historical facts, amply supported by the testimony of eye-witnesses and documentary evidence contained in the volumes in question. There was no intention to assert that the soldiers from North Carolina were braver than those from our sister Southern States, but merely that, the fortune of war having furnished them the occasion, they were *equal to the opportunity*—only this, and nothing more.

“They saw their duty, a dead-sure thing,
And went for it, then and *thar*.”

* Report of committee appointed by the State Literary and Historical Association, November 12, 1903.